

## DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 319 458

JC 900 308

AUTHOR Celetti, Deepti N.; Pierce, Kenneth L.  
 TITLE An Effective Extension Model for Early Childhood Education.  
 INSTITUTION Holland Coll., Charlottetown (Prince Edward Island).  
 PUB DATE 86  
 NOTE 24p.  
 PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)  
 EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.  
 DESCRIPTORS Community Colleges; \*Early Childhood Education; \*Extension Education; Models; Pilot Projects; \*Professional Continuing Education; \*Program Effectiveness; Program Evaluation; Questionnaires; Skill Development; Teacher Education; \*Teacher Education Programs; \*Training Methods; Two Year Colleges  
 IDENTIFIERS \*Prince Edward Island

## ABSTRACT

A pilot project aimed at providing extension training to early childhood educators was initiated in 1985 by Holland College (HC). Thirty students who were employed in the field of early childhood education on Prince Edward Island, were recruited. Eight evening courses were provided in three counties over a 21-month period. Training focused on child development, programming, and interpersonal communication. Questionnaires were administered to the participants and their supervisors/colleagues to determine the extent to which the participants' professional skills were enhanced through the utilization of this training model. Study findings, based on responses by 26 program participants and 10 of their supervisors or colleagues, included the following: (1) participants felt that the program was effective in enhancing their professional growth through the acquisition and application of new skills; (2) the early childhood education extension model was satisfactory in meeting the participants' needs; (3) 73% felt that the courses on child development, creating a learning environment, counseling techniques, and communicating effectively were the most informative, interesting, and applicable; (4) 46% felt that some of the courses attempted to cover too much in the allotted 12 weeks, but over half of the respondents were generally satisfied with the subjects covered in these courses; and (5) when asked to comment on their employees'/co-workers' skills and confidence levels, all 10 supervisors/colleagues perceived a gain in confidence since the beginning of program, and seven indicated that their employee/colleague was better at communicating ideas with co-workers. Both questionnaires are attached. (JMC)

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made \*  
 \* from the original document. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

ED319458

JC900308

AN EFFECTIVE EXTENSION MODEL  
FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Deepti N. Celetti

Kenneth L. Pierce

Holland College  
Early Childhood Education Program  
Charlottetown, P.E.I.

1986

Running Head: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION EXTENSION MODEL

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS  
MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

K.Pierce

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Office of Educational Research and Improvement  
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION  
CENTER (ERIC)

This document has been reproduced as  
received from the person or organization  
originating it.

Minor changes have been made to improve  
reproduction quality.

\* Points of view or opinions stated in this document  
do not necessarily represent official  
OERI position or policy

Abstract

A pilot project aimed at providing extension training to Early Childhood Educators was initiated in September of 1985. Thirty (30) students, who were employed in the field of Early Childhood Education on Prince Edward Island, were recruited. The training was provided in the form of eight (8) evening courses, in three (3) different counties, over a twenty-one (21) month period. Emphasis was placed on the areas of Child Development, Programming and Interpersonal Communication. Questionnaires administered to participants, their supervisors and colleagues indicate that the participant's professional skills were enhanced through the utilization of this training model. Some insights are offered into regarding the utilization of this model.

AN EFFECTIVE EXTENSION MODEL FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

The increased number of women in the work force has escalated the demand for child care across Canada. It was estimated that 22,000 women were in the work force during 1985 across Prince Edward Island <sup>1</sup>. The preschool population (birth to six years) is estimated at 12,000 for 1986 <sup>2</sup>. These statistics attest to the urgent need for adequate child care facilities. In addition, in Prince Edward Island, kindergartens fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health and Social Services, since they are not part of the public school system they are licensed as early childhood centres. Presently, there are 3,000 licensed spaces across the province and approximately 300 early childhood professionals are responsible for the care of preschoolers in licensed centres.

In January of 1986, the provincial government introduced legislation requiring the supervisor and one staff person at each licensed early childhood facilities to be certified by 1991. Failure to obtain the necessary basic training could endanger job security.

In 1985 <sup>3</sup> a study was commissioned by the Early Childhood Education Program of Holland College, P.E.I., under a Canada

1. Department of Labor, Prince Edward Island
2. Department of Health and Social Services, Prince Edward Island
3. An Early Childhood Education Extension Model for Prince Edward Island, 1984

#### Extension Model 4.

Works Project. Its purpose was to explore existing extension program models across Canada and then design a suitable one for P.E.I., taking into consideration the needs of the participants and the rural nature of the province.

An extension model was designed based on the findings of this study. It was decided that due to the low wages of early childhood workers, training would need to be made available free of charge. Thus, funding was secured through the Canada Employment and Immigration Centre. The training was provided during the evenings to enable the participants to remain employed. As well, participants were permitted to use their place of work for the practicum component and courses were offered in their own community.

It was hypothesized that the Early Childhood Education Extension model would enhance the participants' professional skills and meet their needs as adult learners presently employed in Early Childhood Education.

#### METHODS

Thirty individuals, who were employed in the field of education, were recruited across Prince Edward Island. A co-ordinator was hired to offer eight (8) evening courses in each of the three (3) counties of Prince Edward Island over a 21 month period. The classes were three (3) hours long and were held from

Extension Model 5.

Monday through Thursday on a rotating schedule. Emphasis was placed on the areas of Child Development, Programming, Interpersonal Communication, Professionalism, Learning Environments, Counselling, Administration and the Special Needs of Children.

One questionnaire was completed by the participants, another by supervisors/colleagues of the participants. The questionnaires focused on the key areas of the Extension Model. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the two (2) questionnaires.

Fifteen questions comprised the questionnaire administered to the participants in July, 1987. Twenty-six (26) participants responded.

Two-thirds (2/3) of the 30 participants were self-employed and had no supervisor at their centres. The second questionnaire was sent to ten (10) supervisors/colleagues to determine the effectiveness of the training at the participants place of work.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The responses given in both questionnaires indicate that the program was effective in enhancing the participants professional growth through the acquisition and application of new skills. Overall responses also indicate that the Early Childhood Education Extension Model was satisfactory in meeting the participants needs.

In order to improve future programs, it was necessary to determine which courses the students found to be most useful. Seventy-three (73) percent of the participants surveyed felt that Child Development, Creating a Learning Environment, Counselling Techniques, and Communicating Effectively, were the four courses found to be the most informative, interesting and applicable. All four of these courses had a higher rate of student participation and the theory was perhaps easier to apply at the participants Early Childhood facility.

Sixty-two (62) percent of the students surveyed found the Basic Programming course to be useful, although some students expressed dissatisfaction with its format. Fifty-four (54) percent found Advanced Programming to be valuable, fifty (50) percent felt that Administration of Programs for Young Children was effective, and forty-two (42) percent of the students surveyed

felt that the course Fundamentals of Early Childhood Education was informative, interesting, and applicable.

The last three courses were theory oriented and, therefore, were more teacher directed. Also, they tended to cover a lot of theoretical material in a short period of time.

In response to the second question, forty-six (46) percent of the participants surveyed felt that some of the courses attempted to cover too much in the allotted 12 weeks. Eight (8) percent felt that the courses covered too little and the remaining forty-six (46) percent indicated that the courses covered just enough. These answers can be utilized to modify the amount of material covered in a particular course.

The third question addressed the issues of Content and Evaluation. When participants were asked whether they would suggest modification to the content of the short courses, twenty-seven (27) percent of them felt that they would suggest modifications to some of the short courses. Fifty-four (54) percent of the participants surveyed indicated that the content required no modification. Nineteen (19) percent did not respond to this question. These results indicate that over half of the respondents were generally satisfied with the subjects covered in the short courses.

Since the oral evaluation system utilized at Holland College was new for all the participants, it was necessary to determine whether it was found to be satisfactory. Fifty-eight (58) percent of the students surveyed were satisfied with the method of evaluation. Thirty-five (35) were dissatisfied and seven (7) percent did not respond.

The oral evaluation system allows the student to be active in determining his/her own skill level. Prior to the beginning of the program, many participants had expressed concerns with the evaluation method. Some felt that the traditional grading system which allowed the instructor to evaluate the students' performance based on tests was preferable. As the results indicate at the conclusion of the program, only a little over half of the students felt that oral evaluation was satisfactory.

These Extension students worked in their field during the day. It was important to present them with a program that allowed for practical application of the theory. Hence question four was designed to determine whether the participants felt that the program offered a good balance of theory and practical application. All of the participants felt that the program offered a good balance of theory and practical application.

All of the participants enrolled in the program were adults who were employed in Early Childhood facilities for at least one year and some many more. In order to ensure that the participants would be active in their own learning, it was necessary to draw on their past and present experiences. Thus, questions 5 and 9 were designed specifically to address the issues of active learning. Eighty-one (81) percent of the participants surveyed, indicated that their knowledge and expertise were sufficiently tapped during the short courses. All of the participants surveyed felt that they were encouraged to participate during class discussions. The response for these two questions indicates that the participants were active in their learning.

When participants were asked "What appealed to your most about this program?", fifty (50) percent indicated that meeting others in their field and having the opportunity to share ideas was appealing. Thirty-five (35) percent indicated that gaining new knowledge about children and early childhood facilities as well as being active participants in their own learning, was what appealed to them. The remaining fifteen (15) percent cited the fact that having the course during the evening was appealing as it allowed them to keep their jobs during the day.

When participants were asked what they disliked most about the program, thirty-five (35) percent indicated that they disliked having to role-play; nineteen (19) percent did not like having to do class presentations; nineteen (19) percent disliked having homework; and the remaining twenty-seven (27) percent cited various things like memorizing theory and being involved in oral evaluations.

All of the participants surveyed felt that the program had been effective in meeting their needs. The most often stated reason was that by completing the program they could obtain certification and, therefore, be able to stay in the field of Early Childhood Education.

In response to question 8, all of the students surveyed stated that they would recommend this program to others. In response to the question "Why?", the answer given most frequently was that people in the field of Early Childhood Education need to be more informed about what is involved in their profession.

It was difficult to tabulate the answers to the question "What new ideas or techniques are you taking back to your kindergarten or day care centre?" Each answer seems to be unique. In general, the replies varied from "Lots" to "Art and snack ideas", "Rearranging the physical

environment to make optimal use of space", "Putting together a whole new program", "Behaviour Management Techniques", and "Allowing for individuality and creativity with each child."

These answers indicate that each participant had acquired some new ideas and techniques through the program. Furthermore, the subjective answers indicate that skill acquisition is as individual as the participant. Each person was exposed to the same theory, however, the answers indicate that the theory was interpreted to suit individual needs.

In response to question 12, all of the participants indicated that the program had made a contribution in increasing their self-confidence and personal development. This finding was reinforced by their supervisors/colleagues comments.

Participants were asked "What specific changes have you made in your centre or program because of the ideas acquired during the Extension Program?". The changes made fell under three categories: changes to the physical environments, changes to the program, and changes in their approach. Again, the answers varied. Some felt that they were better organized now; better at introducing new materials; able to create and use more home-made materials; increased their sensitivity to the need for less

structure and more free-play activities; recognized the need to create permanent learning centres; do more observations on children; and increase involvement by parents. These varied responses indicate that the program was effective in meeting individual needs.

Seventy (70) percent of the participants surveyed felt that their perception of how children learn has been effected through the extension program. Some of these participants indicated that the two factors that were new to them were: 1) that a child learns through play, and 2) that each child develops and learns at an individual rate. The remaining thirty (30) percent of the participants surveyed felt that their perception of how children learn did not change.

Participants were asked to list three important things that they had learned about themselves through this program. The number one response as indicated by ninety (90) percent of the participants was increased self-confidence and the ability to project it during class presentations, parent-teacher meetings, and daily interactions with children and co-workers. Some of the comments that reinforced this finding included, "I'm likable", "I'm capable", and "I'm intelligent." Approximately forty (40) percent of the participants indicated that improved communication

skills, particularly listening skills, was the second most important thing that they had learned about themselves. The third thing was that they had a better understanding of the field of Early Childhood Education, and that this would enable them to design better programs to meet the needs of the children.

These findings suggest that the Early Childhood Education Extension program was effective in augmenting the students personal and professional growth through the acquisition and application of new skills.

SUPERVISOR/COLLEAGUE QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS:

The results of the ten questionnaires submitted to the supervisors/colleagues are as follows. When asked to comment on their employees/co-workers level of confidence, all ten respondents indicated that their employee/co-worker had become more confident since beginning the Extension program. This increased confidence was displayed in the employees interaction with parents, children and co-workers.

Some of the changes noted in the participants work with children included increased warmth, understanding, and a more positive interaction with children.

Thirty (30) percent of the supervisors/co-workers felt that there was no change in the participants relationship with their co-workers. The remaining seventy (70) percent of the respondents indicated that the employee/colleague was better at communicating ideas with co-workers.

In listing changes in the area of "skills displayed," since beginning the Extension program, the responses varied from "increased creativity in art and circle ideas", and "improved communication skills", to "improved program planning."

#### CONCLUSION

The results of both questionnaires as well as observations made by the co-ordinator and verbal feedback indicate that the extension program was perceived to be successful by all of the participants. Although not all participants expressed satisfaction with every facet of the program, the general consensus was that they would recommend this type of program to their professional peers.

By completing this program, the participants were able to obtain certification and hence remain employed in the field of Early Childhood Education. This factor may have contributed to their overall perception of the Extension program.

Although Prince Edward Island is not large in area, there is significant distance between Early Childhood facilities. For some of the participants, the Extension program provided the only opportunity to get acquainted with their professional peers. Physical isolation and lack of interaction with others leaves many day care and kindergarten teachers feeling isolated.

The Early Childhood Education Extension model was instrumental in reducing this sense of isolation. The program allowed participants from the same county to share solutions and ideas to common problems and thus feel a sense of belonging to a profession. Also, this exchange of information made these adult learners aware of the wealth of knowledge that they already possessed. A confirmation of their techniques by fellow workers was a boost to their self-confidence.

Early Childhood Educators are not perceived to be "professionals" in our society. This is clearly reinforced by their low wages and lack of recognition for the work that they do. Societal perceptions in part are formed by the workers' own perceptions of their work. Before attempting to change societal attitudes regarding early education, it is important to instill the early childhood educators with a positive attitude. To reach this objective, opportunities for skill development and personal growth were made an integral part of the Extension program.

Extension Model 16.

Results from both questionnaires indicate that the participants personal and professional skills were augmented through the Extension program. Observations made by the co-ordinator at the participants place of work, and oral evaluations, further indicate that the participants had indeed acquired new skills and, furthermore, were actively applying them in their daily interactions.

It would have been desirable to conduct a pre-test in the form of a skills assessment questionnaire for participants at the start of the program. A follow-up study in a year's time could also help to determine whether the skills obtained by the participants during the program are still being displayed.

The success of any extension program largely depends upon the motivation of the adult learner, the student/teacher interaction, the flexibility of the schedule, and the program location.

The Early Childhood Education Extension model was successful because it met the needs of the participants. It was made affordable through government grants for tuition, books, travel, and babysitting. The program was made accessible by changing locations to be near the participants. Scheduling the classes in

Extension Model 17.

the evening enabled the participants to remain employed. The subject areas covered in the short courses were relevant to the field of Early Childhood Education. The participants were initially motivated to enroll in the program to obtain certification, however, if the program had failed to meet their needs, some of them could have sought alternatives.

In conclusion, this model was successful, in meeting the needs of the participants. Based on the success of this pilot project, the government has agreed to fund a similar program for 1988. This model's effectiveness lies in its flexibility and ability to provide distance education by moving the program instead of the learner.

1987 11 28  
C. MacLean

**Footnotes**

1. Department of Labour, Prince Edward Island
2. Department of Health and Social Services, Prince Edward Island
3. An Early Childhood Education Extension Model for Prince Edward Island, 1984.

A P P E N D I X I

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION EXTENSION PROGRAM  
STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

1. Eight short courses were offered during this program. Please check off the course(s) which you found the most informative, interesting, and applicable.

<input type="checkbox"/> Child Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Communicating Effectively
<input type="checkbox"/> Creating a Learning Environment	<input type="checkbox"/> Basic Programming
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundamentals of Early Childhood Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Programming
<input type="checkbox"/> Counselling Techniques	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration of Programs for Young Children

2. Do you feel each of the courses attempted to cover too much, too little, or just enough? Please be specific.

---

---

---

---

3. This is a two part question. Please answer each section.

a) Would you suggest modification to the content of the short courses?  yes  no

b) Please indicate whether you found the evaluation system used to be satisfactory or not.

---

---

---

4. The program provides a good balance of theory and practical application.  yes  no

5. Was your knowledge and expertise sufficiently tapped during this program?

---

---

---

---

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

2

6. What appealed to you most about this program?

---

---

---

7. What did you dislike the most about this program? (Please be specific)

---

---

---

8. Would you recommend this program to others? Why or Why not?

---

---

---

9. Did you feel that you were encouraged to participate during class discussions?

---

---

10. Overall, was the program effective in meeting your needs. If yes, then how?

---

---

---

ABOUT YOU

11. What new ideas or techniques are you taking back to your kindergarten or day care centre?

---

---

---

12. This program made a contribution to increasing my self-confidence and personal development.    yes    no

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

3

13. What specific changes have you made in your Centre or Program because of the ideas acquired during the Extension Program?

---

---

---

---

14. Has your perception of how children learn been affected through this program? Why or Why not?

---

---

---

---

15. List three important things that you learned about yourself through this program.

---

---

---

---

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION EXTENSION PROGRAM  
QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Supervisor or Colleague:

Please answer the following questions to help us to better understand the influence of the Early Childhood Education Program on your employee/colleague.

1. Please list any changes you have noticed in your employee/cc-worker in each of the following areas:  
A. Level of confidence:

---

---

---

---

---

B. Work with children:

---

---

---

---

---

C. Relationship with other workers:

---

---

---

---

---

D. Skills displayed at the Centre:

---

---

---

---

---

Please check off one of the following boxes:

Supervisor/Director  Co-worker

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions. Please mail back in the enclosed addressed envelope.

## DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 319 459

JC 900 309

**TITLE** Virginia Community Colleges Transfers to In-State Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities: Data Exchange and Analysis Context.

**INSTITUTION** Virginia State Dept. of Community Colleges, Richmond.

**PUB DATE** 13 Jun 90

**NOTE** 70p.

**PUB TYPE** Reports - Descriptive (141) --- Reports - Research/Technical (143) --- Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)

**EDRS PRICE** MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.

**DESCRIPTORS** \*College Transfer Students; Community Colleges; \*Data Collection; Definitions; Higher Education; Information Dissemination; \*Information Needs; \*Intercollegiate Cooperation; Student Characteristics; Student Evaluation; \*Student Records; \*Transfer Policy; Two Year Colleges; Universities

**IDENTIFIERS** \*Virginia

**ABSTRACT**

An overview is provided of the issues involved in the state-mandated exchange of data about transfer students between two-year and four-year colleges in Virginia. Background is presented on state legislators' concerns with the measurement of student achievement; guidelines developed by the state assembly regarding data exchanges and student assessment plans; the community colleges' compliance with these guidelines; and examples of successful agreements. In addition, the report discusses the community colleges' needs for student-identifiable data and for information on the number of students who applied to the universities, those who were admitted, credits attempted and credits earned at the senior institutions, terms enrolled, and selected course grades. The need for agreement on a definition of the term "transfer student" is underscored. The bulk of the report consists of attachments, including: (1) the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia's guidelines for student assessment and for student assessment plans; (2) the Virginia Community College System's (VCCS's) guidelines for student assessment plans; (3) Elmo D. Roesler's paper, "Statewide Planning for College Individually Developed and Implemented Student Assessment Plans"; (4) a report on the success of Lord Fairfax Community College transfer students; (5) demographic and academic outcomes data on community college transfers to James Madison University; (6) various VCCS memoranda concerning the exchange of student transfer data; and (7) the VCCS's response to a survey regarding definitions of transfer. (WJT)

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made \*  
 \* from the original document. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES TRANSFERS  
TO IN-STATE PUBLIC FOUR-YEAR  
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:  
DATA EXCHANGE AND ANALYSIS CONTEXT**

*June 13, 1990*

*Research and Planning  
Virginia Community College System  
101 North Fourteenth Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219*

VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS  
MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

E.D. Roesler

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE**



THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES  
FORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U S DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Office of Educational Research and Improvement  
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION  
CENTER (ERIC)

This document has been reproduced as  
received from the person or organization  
originating it

Minor changes have been made to improve  
reproduction quality

Points of view or opinions stated in this docu-  
ment do not necessarily represent official  
OERI position or policy

# VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFERS TO IN-STATE PUBLIC FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES: DATA EXCHANGE AND ANALYSIS CONTEXT

In 1986, the Virginia General Assembly directed the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to "investigate means by which student achievement may be measured." In order to assist institutions in the measurement of student achievement, the State Council issued a set of ten GUIDELINES, two of which directly concerned the exchange of student transfer data. Guideline 7 asks public higher education institutions to report data on newly enrolled former public school students, and Guideline 8 simply reiterates that similar data should be gathered by senior institutions and supplied to the community colleges. The two guidelines are presented below, while Attachment A has the entire State Council *Guidelines for Student Assessment*.

## GUIDELINE 7

Each year institutions of higher education in Virginia should provide progress reports on all full-time, first-year students who received high school diplomas in Virginia during the prior year, containing information such as retention, grade-point average, and whether students are taking remedial coursework. The report should be sent to the State Council of Higher Education, which will work with the Department of Education to distribute the information to the schools or the school divisions.

## GUIDELINE 8

Similar material should be compiled by senior institutions for Virginia community college transfer students, along with graduation information and the number of credits transferred. The data should be sent to the State Council of Higher Education, which will distribute the information to the appropriate parties.

It should be noted that the State Council guidelines were mandated by a Virginia legislative act entitled the *Report of Study Conducted by the Council of Higher Education for Virginia, The Measurement of Student Achievement and the Assurance of Quality in Virginia Higher Education, to the Governor and the General Assembly of Virginia: Senate Document No. 14 (1986)*. Since this paper has an audience both in and out of the

Commonwealth, a copy of *Senate Document No. 14* is enclosed (after all other attachments) to provide readers with Virginia's recommendations on student assessment practices for higher education institutions. See pages 16-17 of *Senate Document No. 14*.

As members of a statewide task force which developed the State Council assessment guidelines, System Office staff worked with college faculty and staff to produce the VCCS Guidelines for Student Assessment Plans, March 1987. Refer to Attachment B. The VCCS central planning effort has attempted to integrate the colleges' student assessment activities with the accreditation self-study procedures established by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) document *Criteria for Accreditation: Commission on Colleges*. The development of college assessment plans and reports is a topic addressed in the paper "Statewide Planning for College Individually Developed and Implemented Student Assessment Plans." Refer to Attachment C.

All Virginia community college student assessment plans and related progress reports showed compliance with the State Council guidelines requiring colleges to collect and analyze data on transferring students and to use results of such analyses to evaluate instruction and the curriculum. Though Guideline 8 indicated that the State Council would gather and process student transfer data, a subsequent Council strategy required each community college to establish a separate student transfer data exchange agreement with every senior institution having five or more community college transfer students. It is obvious that creating separate student data exchange agreements between community colleges and groups of four-year colleges and universities is a work intensive, inefficient method to obtain student transfer data. If the State Council had elected to design and operate a statewide student transfer data system, the process would have entailed the development and use of a standard definition for the term "community college student transfer." There is, however, an advantage to not having a common student transfer definition and comparable data. Assessment of student transfers remains an institutional matter, not easily susceptible to comparative analyses.

The results of one among many of the successful, cooperative exchanges of data and studies on student transfers are documented in Attachment D. Lord Fairfax Community College reported in its *Assessment Report, July 1989* on the success of some 154 students who transferred to James Madison University during the years 1978 to 1984. The university has responded to several community colleges through its study entitled *Demographic and Academic Outcomes Data on Transfers from Virginia's Public Two-Year Institutions to James Madison University*. These two documents record one instance of the generally successful efforts to assess outcomes through the study of transferring students to senior institutions. Peter Ewell at the National Center for Higher Education

Management Systems has indicated his approval of the assessments done by both Lord Fairfax Community College and James Madison University in their longitudinal studies of transfer students. He found the work to be commendable -- even a good model.

As the agreements among individual colleges and senior institutions have been implemented, it has become obvious that there is a wide range of transfer information being reported from the four-year institutions back to the community colleges. In order to determine precisely what information the community colleges were receiving, Research and Planning (VCCS) staff conducted a survey in November of 1989, asking the colleges to list the information they were currently receiving from the senior institutions and to document any problems. See Attachment E. The results showed that while most four-year colleges were complying with the SCHEV list of required data elements, many of the community colleges were not satisfied with the data obtained. In particular, the colleges concluded that in order to perform any adequate assessment based on transfer data, it must contain "student identifier" data elements, preferably a name and social security number. As the VCCS survey results show, student identifiable data items were not being supplied uniformly by many of the universities.

After a series of discussions between the VCCS and the State Council, the SCHEV list of requisite student transfer data elements was amended with the following additions:

"The community colleges believe:

1. that student-identifiable data is necessary to make curricular decisions. We continue to urge four-year institutions to share data by student identifier, as long as the community colleges sign agreements providing safeguards for use of those data.
2. that four-year institutions should provide data to colleges who transfer fewer than five students. This problem was identified by several small colleges who transfer students to a number of four-year colleges, but less than five to any one. Any accommodation you can make to those colleges would be appreciated.

Two-year colleges have found that including a few more data elements adds greatly to their ability to analyze transfer data, and you are urged to add these elements if you have not already done so:

- number of students who applied
- number who were admitted

- credits attempted at senior institution
- credits earned at senior institution
- terms enrolled
- selected course grades"

Please refer to the Dr. Margaret A. Miller memorandum (SCHEV), March 21, 1990, in Attachment F.

The need for the expanded State Council list (above) of student transfer data elements is supported by tables showing the types of transfer data currently available. See Attachment G.

The statewide population of Virginia community college transfers to the four-year colleges and universities is available in only one report, i.e., the SCHEV Form B-7: Transfer Students from Public Two-year Virginia Institutions, Enrolled Fall Term. Undergraduate transfers are defined as "Applicants who have been enrolled in one or more collegiate institutions and subsequently apply for admission to another institution . . . with some transfer credit" (SCHEV B-7). The senior institutions use their own definitions to select public community college transfers to be included in their totals. Definitions of two-year college transfers can and do vary from year to year. For example:

George Mason University, in 1988 uses " definition -- a "transfer student" is an applied, accepted, and enrolled student who is not a first time student or a re-admit student (SCHEV B-7).

In 1989, the George Mason University definition has changed to -- a "transfer student" is a student who presents 12 or more hours of work from a post-secondary institution (SCHEV B-7).

The number of transfer students from two-year Virginia Community college was 3,222 in 1988 and increased to 3,726, in 1989. No other demographic data on transferring students are linked to the Form B-7 data set. Refer to Attachment G.

A final conclusion based on the survey results is that most transfer data collection procedures will be hindered until there is general agreement on a definition of the term "transfer student." This is particularly important at the community college level, where it becomes apparent that many issues could be resolved if a single definition were adopted. As an example, we might note that there should be uniformity concerning number of credit hours taken at a community college before a student who subsequently attends a senior institution is considered a "transfer student."

**In conclusion, the VCCS supports the following recommendations:**

1. **Oversight agencies such as the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia should support the centralized systematic collection and exchange of student identifiable transfer data.**
2. **The VCCS should have one official definition for the term "student transfer" to a senior institution.**

## ATTACHMENT A

**A COPY OF THE  
STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR  
VIRGINIA  
"GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT ASSESSMENT,"  
PRINTED APRIL 3, 1987**

## Guidelines for Student Assessment

Senate Joint Resolution 125, passed by the 1985 Virginia General Assembly, directed the Council of Higher Education "to investigate means by which student achievement may be measured to assure the citizens of Virginia the continuing high quality of higher education in the Commonwealth." The study was presented to the 1986 General Assembly as Senate Document No. 14. In Senate Joint Resolution 83, the assembly accepted the recommendations made in the study and requested institutions of higher education in the state "to establish assessment programs to measure student achievement." It further resolved that "the Council, in cooperation with the state-supported colleges and universities, should establish guidelines for designing good assessment programs and report to the public results of institutional efforts to measure student achievement in its biennial revisions of The Virginia Plan for Higher Education."

In November 1986, a meeting was convened of representatives from colleges and universities which already were developing assessment plans. The group's task was to establish guidelines that respected both the complexity of the issue and the need to provide state-wide coherence to the assessment plans. The committee was guided in its work by the recommendations contained in Senate Document No. 14.

### Guideline 1

Plans to evaluate undergraduate student outcomes should be appropriate to the mission of each institution and allow for diversity of program goals. As far as possible institutions should use multiple indicators of student achievement. These should be appropriate to the disciplines in question; the goals of the various programs; and the intellectual, performance, attitudinal, or emotional outcomes being assessed. Individual institutions may focus their reports either on absolute measures of student learning and performance or on the contribution the institution has made to the student's development ("value-added assessment").

### Guideline 2

In many cases, data collected for other reasons will be suitable for assessment purposes. Some examples might be admissions information, retention and completion data, alumni follow-up studies, job placement data, information on licensing and certification examinations, accreditation reports, other assessment studies, state-wide program reviews, retention studies, and studies of community-college transfer students. Institutions may want to select appropriate nationally available instruments or create campus-based measures. In deciding which existing measures to use and in developing new ones, faculty involvement is critical.

**Guideline 3**

In developing or selecting assessment procedures, institutions should consider the effect the procedures will have on students and ensure that they do not take an unreasonable amount of time or cause undue hardship on individual students. Wherever appropriate or feasible, the results should be shared with individual students, with follow-up support provided when necessary.

**Guideline 4**

Students should be assessed at appropriate intervals during college, and data should be collected on alumni. The assessments should include student outcomes in general education and in the major. Institutions need not assess students who are only taking occasional courses. Rather than measuring the learning and performance of every student, it may be appropriate to use sampling procedures. Every program need not be measured every year, but each institution is responsible for developing a plan that will measure student outcomes in all undergraduate programs on a regular schedule.

**Guideline 5**

As part of the institutional description published in The Virginia Plan, each institution should identify minimal verbal and quantitative skills, below which threshold students will need remediation at that institution. It should describe how it identifies incoming high-risk students-- such as by SAT scores, high-school grades, or other indicators-- and its plans for assessing their verbal and quantitative skills. It should indicate how placement in remedial courses affects a student's admission into degree-credit work.

**Guideline 6**

Each institution should describe its plans for and its means of measuring the success of remediation, including, for instance, the retention, progress, and graduation rates of remediated students. Where possible, remediation for students at senior institutions should be arranged through agreements with community colleges. Credits for remedial courses should count in the student's academic load and the institution's FTE calculations but not toward degree requirements.

**Guideline 7**

Each year institutions of higher education in Virginia should provide progress reports on all full-time, first-year students who received high-school diplomas in Virginia during the prior year, containing information such as retention, grade-point average, and whether students are taking remedial coursework. The report should be sent to the State Council of Higher Education, which will work with the Department of Education to distribute the information to the schools or the school divisions.

**Guideline 8**

Similar material should be compiled by senior institutions for Virginia community-college transfer students, along with graduation information and the number of credits transferred. The data should be sent to the State Council of Higher Education, which will distribute the information to the appropriate parties.

**Guideline 9**

It is each institution's responsibility to evaluate its assessment procedures initially and regularly thereafter. It should ensure that those procedures meet standards within the field for scholarly integrity, are compatible with the institutional mission and program goals, and are useful for program improvement.

**Guideline 10**

The purpose of assessment is not to compare institutions but to improve student learning and performance. As part of its plan, therefore, each institution should have in place or develop student, faculty, and curricular development programs to address identified areas of weakness.

The plans will be described in a report on student assessment to be published in the 1987 revision to The Virginia Plan. They will therefore be due to the State Council in June, 1987. In accordance with the guidelines above, they should contain identifications or descriptions of the following:

- Assessment procedures for general education
- Assessment procedures for the majors
- Alumni follow-up studies
- The skills necessary to do college-degree-credit work at the institution
- Procedures for identifying high-risk students

- Policies regarding placement of students doing remedial work in degree-credit courses
- Plans for remediation
- Methods of assessing the success of remediation
- The timetable for implementation of the assessment plan
- Procedures for evaluating the assessment plan
- Plans for faculty, student, and curricular development programs to address identified problems or deficiencies.

By 1989, institutions will begin to report the results of their assessment procedures. The published results of the assessment should be concrete, more than anecdotal, and presented in quantified form.

April 3, 1987

## **ATTACHMENT B**

**VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM  
GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT ASSESSMENT PLANS,  
PRINTED MARCH, 1987**

# VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

## GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT ASSESSMENT PLANS

### Introduction

Each community college is responsible for preparing a Student Assessment Plan that demonstrates the educational soundness of its curricular design; the quality of its instruction; and the achievement of its students both during and after college. The VCCS guidelines, that follow, complement the Guidelines for Student Assessment distributed by the State Council. In preparing your college's plan, consider both sets of guidelines. Note also that the assessment plans for all public institutions of higher education will be described in the 1987 revision to The Virginia Plan. College plans must, therefore, be forwarded to SCHEV by June 30, 1987. The results of assessment procedures described in college plans must be reported to the Council two years later in 1989.

### Plan Outline

To be comprehensive, each community college Student Assessment Plan should include the following sections, and others, as appropriate:

#### I. Student Assessment Plan Development

Describe the process for and the individuals involved in developing the college's plan.

#### II. College Mission and Educational Program Goals

Describe the uniqueness of the mission of the college and its educational program goals. How do the college's educational program goals prepare students for success in the work place and when they pursue other educational programs? How does the college ensure that upon leaving the college, students have proficiency in reading, writing, oral communication, and basic mathematical skills?

#### III. Community College Student Profile

Describe the goals of community college students and relate these goals to their course-taking habits and their enrollment patterns across time.

#### IV. Assessment Methods and Schedule

Using the context for evaluating educational outcomes established in II and III above and referring also to the SCHEV Guidelines, describe the following:

##### A. Educational outcomes to be evaluated.

- B. Methods (tests, study results, etc.) that will be used to demonstrate that these outcomes are being achieved.
- C. Categories of students to be assessed.
- D. Schedule for assessing students in all programs during and after college.

V. Assessment Plan Integration

Describe how assessment information such as the results of tests, studies, and surveys will be used to provide feedback to students and faculty. How will these results be integrated into the academic program planning and evaluation process at your college and be used to improve instruction and programs, where appropriate?

VI. Assessment Plan Evaluation

Describe the process that will be used to evaluate and improve the usefulness of your Plan to the college. Provide a schedule for evaluating the Plan.

March, 1987

## ATTACHMENT C

**VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM  
STATEWIDE PLANNING FOR COLLEGE INDIVIDU-  
ALLY  
DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED STUDENT  
ASSESSMENT PLANS**

## VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

### Statewide Planning for College Individually Developed and Implemented Student Assessment Plans

Elmo D. Roesler  
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Planning

#### Introduction

Recently, individuals responsible for public higher education in Virginia and throughout the nation have centered their attention on two issues. The first involves institutional efforts to define and achieve excellence in relation to a distinctive college or university mission. The second entails the assessment of academic program effectiveness. Both issues pertain to the concept of accountability in higher education, and those discussing the issues quite often allude to them in terms of quality in education and the evaluation of educational outcomes.

#### Context for the Assessment of Student Outcomes and Academic Programs in the Virginia Community Colleges

Three documents are viewed as the principle contributing sources for criteria and/or recommendations affecting Virginia higher education institutions' student assessment programs. These documents are described in the following paragraphs in this section.

**SACS Criteria.** The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) has recently revised its guidelines for self-study of higher education institutions, and the revised guidelines for use in evaluating institutional effectiveness have been published in the *Criteria for Accreditation: Commission on Colleges*. The college self-study function, related to accreditation, is viewed as a systematic, cyclical process whereby SACS member institutions seek to improve the quality of educational offerings and support services by assessing the outcomes of student learning. Accordingly, college institutional self-appraisal statements must be supported by self-study findings obtained through a variety of research procedures. The planning of institutional self-study research activities is now viewed by SACS as a formal process. The college research and planning activities have to be organized to study and provide answers to those *Criteria* which are considered mandatory, i.e., those *Criteria* which are phrased as *thou-must-do statements* in the SACS document.

In developing individual college student assessment plans, the Virginia community colleges had access to *An Outline of College Self-study and Assessment Elements* (VCCS), 1987. See attached copy of the outline. A description of the outline is as follows:

The items in the outline are extracted from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools *Criteria for Accreditation: Commission on Colleges* (1987), the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia *Guidelines for Student Assessment—A Draft* (March 17, 1987), and the *Report of Study Conducted by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, The Measurement of Student Achievement and the Assurance of Quality in Virginia Higher Education, to the Governor and the General Assembly of Virginia: Senate Document No. 14* (1986).

In the outline, the mandatory (must) self-study elements are presented in approximately the same order as they are listed in the SACS Criteria. Accordingly, the term assessment is linked not only to student and program evaluation but also to the evaluation of the total college in a manner corresponding to the SACS comprehensive self-study procedure. The thought behind this outlining process is one of showing how the SCHEV assessment guidelines and the recommendations of *Senate Document No. 14* are related to the SACS assessment criteria and the SACS accreditation procedure.

*Senate Document No. 14.* A 1986 Virginia Senate document contained the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia *Report The Measurement of Student Achievement and the Assurance of Quality in Virginia Higher Education*. The document recommended that --

1. Assessment techniques be utilized to improve the relationship between secondary and higher education institutions,
2. Higher education institutions establish procedures to measure student achievement,
3. Institutions establish thresholds for college degree credit courses and administer entry level skills tests to determine students who might have difficulty with college work,
4. Colleges provide remediation with no credit toward a degree being earned for remedial work,
5. The State Council form an advisory committee to develop guidelines for designing good assessment programs, and

6. Colleges and universities submit annual reports of student progress having "non-anecdotal and quantifiable information on student achievement to the Council of Higher Education."

Most importantly, the position taken by the State Council in this report was "against a system-wide minimum testing program for Virginia as the best means to measure student achievement" (15-17). See copy of State Council Report, attached.

*State Council Guidelines.* In April, 1987, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia produced its Guidelines for Student Assessment. The guidelines were developed to carry out the recommendations of *Senate Document No. 14*, and to provide Virginia's colleges and universities with a checklist of items which should be considered as the institutions designed and implemented their individual assessment programs. See attached set of the State Council's guidelines. Figure 1 shows a Gleaning of Guideline Topics, from the State Council draft of April 3, 1987.

VCCS Statewide Planning Supportive of College Assessment Programs

The System's approach to promoting the development of the community colleges' assessment plans and programs entailed the following:

*Establishing VCCS Guidelines.* During March, 1987, the Research and Planning (VCCS) Office produced a set of *Guidelines for Student Assessment Plans*. The major elements included (1) overall plan development, (2) college mission and educational program goals, (3) community college student profile data, (4) assessment methods and schedule, (5) assessment plan integration, and (6) assessment plan evaluation. Refer to the attached set of VCCS guidelines.

*VCCS Review of College Assessment Plans.* The progress colleges had made in the development of the Student Assessment Plans of June 30, 1987 was closely monitored. A series of workshops was held for the college assessment teams, and colleges experiencing difficulties with their plans either came to the System Office for consultation or central staff met with college administrators and faculty at the campuses. While difficulties and resistance were much in evidence, all twenty-three Virginia community colleges provided detailed yet practical assessment plans which were judged by the State Council to be acceptable or exemplary.

*College Assessment Planning Matrix.* The attached matrix was developed with the thought of establishing a common frame of reference which the Virginia community colleges could use to

Figure 1

**State Council of Higher Education for Virginia  
Guidelines for Student Assessment:  
A Gleaning of Guideline Topics  
(Taken from the State Council Draft, April 3, 1987)**

<u>Guidelines</u>	<u>Assessment Topics</u>	<u>Guidelines</u>	<u>Assessment Topics</u>
Number 1:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College mission</li> <li>• Program goals</li> <li>• Multiple indicators of achievement</li> <li>• Assessment of disciplines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess intellectual, attitudinal, and emotional outcomes</li> <li>• Focus on absolute measures of learning or on "value added" assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where possible, remediation should take place in community colleges</li> </ul>
Number 2:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collected for other institutional purposes/study are suitable</li> <li>• List of studies deemed relevant to assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select appropriate national tests or create instruments locally</li> <li>• Faculty involvement is critical</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade point averages, need for remedial work.</li> </ul>
Number 3:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appraise the effect of assessment process on students</li> <li>• Share assessment results with students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide follow-up support to students as result of assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data reported to State Council of Higher Education for Virginia</li> </ul>
Number 4:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess students at appropriate intervals</li> <li>• Collect data on alumni</li> <li>• Assess data on student outcomes for general education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students taking occasional courses need not be evaluated</li> <li>• Use sampling procedures</li> <li>• Plan for periodic evaluation of student outcomes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relate assessment findings to mission, goals, and programs</li> </ul>
Number 5:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify minimal and verbal and quantitative skills</li> <li>• Thresholds for students requiring remediation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Method for identifying high risk students</li> <li>• Method for assessing remedial work in subsequent degree credit work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard is scholarly integrity in the field or discipline.</li> <li>• Need for student, faculty, curricular development programs to address weaknesses with assessment</li> </ul>
Number 6:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of individual college student assessment plans for remediation</li> <li>• Developmental studies credits not counted toward degree</li> </ul>	
Number 7:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colleges and universities provide data on first-time, full-time students, graduating in Virginia in prior year.</li> </ul>	
Number 8:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up on community college transfer students to four-year colleges</li> </ul>	
Number 9:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each institution evaluates annually its assessment procedures</li> </ul>	
Number 10:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard is scholarly integrity in the field or discipline.</li> <li>• Assessment is not to compare institutions but to improve student learning and performance</li> </ul>	

gauge the thoroughness of their individual assessment planning activities. The matrix displays in Column 1, a list of planning elements (assessment criteria, evaluation guidelines, and legislative recommendations) which were derived from documents prepared by the following:

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
- State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)
- The Senate, Commonwealth of Virginia

Also in Column 1 are the kinds of studies and measurement techniques which are often used by community college administrators and faculty to evaluate student learning, the instructional programs, and the overall effectiveness of the institution. Column 2 lists for the assessment elements and related studies, the source(s) which have criteria, guidelines, or recommendations (from SACS, SCHEV, and the Virginia Senate) that call for the use of each specific planning element.

Column 3 exhibits an "X" if a planning element is considered to be a mandatory one, i.e., a college needed to include the element in its assessment plan and among its evaluation activities. Column 4 provides options (college fills in the "X") for the college to review as it builds an assessment plan and lists its evaluation activities.

The matrix was constructed to deal mainly with mandatory and well established community college assessment criteria and procedures. Each college was encouraged to undertake a program of assessment deemed appropriate to individual evaluation objectives. It was hoped that the matrix with its list of elements would be helpful to the colleges as they develop their assessment plans.

*Creation of Longitudinal Data Bases.* A key project is the development of a *Research and Assessment Data Support System (RADDS)* to provide for the systematic, on-going processing of data required for VCCS and college research analyses -- particularly longitudinal student assessment studies. This system will support research for the following: (1) data for marketing/retention research, (2) progress of first-time, full-time students who received high school diplomas during the prior year, (3) progress of graduates/former - students as transfers to Virginia's public four-year institutions, and (4) developmental student academic progress, retention, and graduation data.

Further information regarding the topics covered in this paper is available from Research and Planning (VCCS) Office in Richmond, Virginia.

## **ATTACHMENT D**

## **TRANSFER AGREEMENTS**

**Lord Fairfax Community College:  
Success of Students who Transfer  
to Baccalaureate Institutions**

**Data Sharing Agreement with JMU**

**Demographic and Academic Outcomes  
Data on Transfers from Virginia's  
Public Two-Year Institutions  
to James Madison University**

## SUCCESS OF STUDENTS WHO TRANSFER TO BACCALAUREATE INSTITUTIONS

The transfer of Lord Fairfax Community College graduates and non-graduates appears to be largely governed by proximity. The baccalaureate institutions to which the greatest number of students transfer are, in order of numerical importance, Shenandoah College (located nearby in Winchester), James Madison University (56 miles south on I-81), Shepherd College (25 miles north in West Virginia), and George Mason University (60 miles east at the end of I-66). Because the numbers of students transferring to other colleges are very low, Lord Fairfax's inquiry regarding success of transfer students has focused on these institutions.

In the spring of 1985 the (then) director of institutional research at Lord Fairfax initiated and completed a comprehensive and well conceived investigation of "The Academic Performance of Lord Fairfax Community College Transfer Students at James Madison University" (Frank J. Doherty, photoduplicated, May 1985). The study involved 266 Lord Fairfax students who applied to James Madison, and focused on the performance of 154 who actually enrolled there during the years 1978-84 (Appendix B). Results of the investigation are summarized below.

- (1) Even though the overall level of high school achievement of entering LFCC students was measurably lower than that of JMU "native" students (based on rank in class), the GPAs of LFCC transfers to JMU and native JMU students were "virtually indistinguishable." (Table 27 )
- (2) The JMU graduation rate of Lord Fairfax transfers (72 percent), while lower than that for JMU native admissions who entered

Table 27

GPA's of LFCC Transfers to JMU with JMU Native  
Students-Junior Year and at Graduation  
1978-1983

Type of Student	Junior (N)	Graduation (N)
LFCC Transfer	2.767 (104)	2.863 (71)
JMU Native Students	2.784 (?)	2.900 (?)

their junior years (84 percent), compared satisfactorily with native admissions and indicates successful transition from the community college to university setting.

(3) There were no differences in either the GPA or rate of graduation at JMU between LFCC graduates and non-graduates who transferred to JMU. However, the difference in the rate of graduation for these groups approached statistical significance (79 percent of LFCC graduates completed at JMU; only 57 percent of LFCC non-graduates completed). This suggests that Lord Fairfax graduation may enhance the chances of graduation at JMU.

Institutional Research Director Doherty concluded:

The overall finding is that students from LFCC who ultimately matriculate at JMU are well prepared to compete scholastically with the native JMU student. There are strong indications that their experiences at LFCC have helped them when they enter the highly competitive courses and programs at JMU. (The Academic Performance..., Doherty, p. 16)

The JMU Office of Planning and Analysis summarized its analysis of the data in this way.

It appears that LFCC students have enjoyed considerable success in gaining admission to the University, and that, once enrolled, they have performed in a manner comparable to native JMU freshmen...Considering the highly competitive nature of first-time freshman admission to the University, as well as the substantially lower cost of attending LFCC as compared to JMU, the university-parallel program appears to be a viable and attractive option for certain students whose eventual goal is a bachelor's degree at JMU. (Quoted in The Academic Performance..., Doherty, p. 17)

A follow-up investigation in 1989 of the performance of 74 LFCC transfers to JMU confirms the continuing success of LFCC students there. There was no significant difference in the JMU GPAs of current LFCC

transfers (2.737) and JMU natives (2.785). Further, data were analyzed by determining the JMU average GPAs of students completing 12-30 credits at LFCC prior to transfer and those completing more than 30 credits at LFCC. Those students completing less than 12 credits prior to transfer from LFCC (N=3) were eliminated from the analysis because their experiences at LFCC probably would have had minimal impact on their success at the University. Eight of the 74 students completed 12-30 credits at LFCC prior to transfer and earned a JMU GPA of 2.69. Sixty-three of the 74 LFCC students (including 28 LFCC graduates) completed more than 30 credits prior to transfer and achieved a JMU GPA of 2.84. These data suggest that conclusions in the 1985 report--Lord Fairfax students are successful in transferring to JMU and compete satisfactorily with JMU freshmen enrollees--are still applicable. Lord Fairfax will continue to receive data from JMU on its transfer students under a 1989 data sharing agreement. (Appendix C)

LFCC students have experienced reasonable success in gaining admission to JMU. Of the 38 LFCC applicants to JMU fall 1989, 29 (76 percent) were accepted. It is anticipated that the newly approved articulation agreement between JMU and the community colleges will further enhance the admission rate of LFCC students.

Agreements for data sharing, comparable to that cited in Appendix C with JMU, have also been made with Shenandoah College and with George Mason University. Only recently Shepherd College indicated its willingness to share information and provided a first data set. In the 1988-90 year, Lord Fairfax intends to make a comprehensive investigation, similar in scope and rigor to the 1985 JMU study, of the performance of transfer students at one of the four baccalaureate institutions cited.

This will likely be Shepherd or JMU again. Additional follow-up will depend on the amount and quality of data made available by the senior colleges.

**DEMOGRAPHIC AND ACADEMIC OUTCOMES DATA  
ON TRANSFERS FROM  
VIRGINIA'S PUBLIC TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS  
TO JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**

**COMPILED BY**

**OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ANALYSIS  
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**

**MARCH 1989**

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

DATA ON TRANSFERS FROM VIRGINIA'S PUBLIC TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

James Madison University desires to fully comply with Guideline 8 of the "Guidelines for Student Assessment" that asks senior institutions to share information on transfer students with Virginia's state-supported two-year colleges. Therefore, this data diskette contains data on the students who transferred from your institution to James Madison University and were enrolled during the 1988-89 academic year. Students selected were from our transcript database. We selected students who attended your college prior to enrolling at JMU. For analysis purposes, you must decide whether you consider each student to be a legitimate transfer from your institution.

The next data diskette will be ready during the early Fall 1989. It will be an update of this data and will include course data for Spring 1989 as well as graduation information for May and Summer 1989. Beginning with Fall 1989, we will provide a data diskette annually in the fall of all students at JMU who attended your institution prior to JMU and who attended JMU during the previous academic year. It will be your responsibility to create an ongoing list of transfers to JMU from these annual diskettes. We will contact you when the next diskette is available.

We have provided several files on this diskette in a dBASE III+ format. They are divided into data files (.DBF), report files (.FRM), and program files (.PRG). To assist your analysis of the data, five reports can be automatically generated. The procedures to generate these reports are described below. Any additional reports and analysis are the responsibility of your institution. Given the size of several files, it is strongly suggested that you load this data onto a hard disk. Although this data has been generated in dBASE III+ format, all the files and programs should be able to run on dBASE IV. Given the advanced state of microcomputer database technology, you should be able to transfer the database files to other database managers such as RBASE if you prefer to use these programs. The files on this diskette are as follows:

DEMO	DBF	17968	3-15-89	4:58p
GRADES	DBF	83055	3-14-89	4:26p
NAME	FRM	1990	3-15-89	9:03p
MAJOR	FRM	1990	3-15-89	9:14p
HOURS	FRM	1990	3-15-89	9:25p
YEAR	FRM	1990	3-15-89	9:45p
GRADES	FRM	1990	3-16-89	2:09p
HOURS	PRG	67	3-15-89	10:01p
NAME	PRG	68	3-15-89	9:51p
MAJOR	PRG	74	3-15-89	9:58p

YEAR	PRG	78	3-15-89	9:58p
GRADES	PRG	78	3-15-89	2:15p

1. DEMO.DBF

This file contains demographic information on all the transfers from your institution. It is produced in a dBASE III+ format. The data elements are as follows:

SSN	Student's Social Security Number
COLL_CODE	Your college code
COLL_NAME	Your college name
LNAME	Student's last name
FNAME	Student's first name
INITIAL	Student's middle initial
SUFFIX	Student's suffix
FIRST_ATT	Date of first attendance. The first two characters give the year of first attendance. The last two characters give the month of first attendance. For example, 8809 means the student first attended JMU in September 1988.
COMM_CRED	Credits accepted from the two-year institution
MAJOR	Student's major at JMU. The list of majors is listed at the end this document.
HRS_ATT	Hours attempted at JMU
HRS_EARNED	Total hours earned at JMU and transfer college
QPA	Grade Point Average at JMU. JMU calls it Quality Point Average. The overall QPA of JMU students ranges between 2.80 and 2.77. This has held steady for the last ten years. We have included a copy of the the cumulative averages of all students completing the Fall 1988 semester.
ACADSTAND	Academic standing at JMU
STAND_NAME	Academic standing listed by full name (Good, etc.)
ACADLEVEL	Academic level at JMU
LEVEL_NAME	Academic level listed by full name (Freshman, etc.)
SEM_GRAD	Semester graduated or to graduate. Those students who have applied to graduate in May 89 are coded in this field as 8905.

WITHDRAWAL      Withdrawal date from JMU

2. GRADES.DBF

This file, also produced in a dBASE III-format, contains student-identifiable, course by course information on how each student performed at JMU. You will probably need to refer to JMU's 1988-89 undergraduate catalog which should be housed in the office at your institution that assists college transfer students to decide on their transfer institution. The data elements are as follows:

SSN	Student's Social Security Number
TRCOLLCODE	Transfer college code
YRSESSION	Year/Session of course
CRSE_TITLE	JMU course title
CREDIT_HRS	Credit hours earned
GRADE	Grade received
TRANSCODE	Transaction code. The transaction codes are detailed as follows:

AP	Advanced Placement
CC	Credit
CP	Pass/Fail
CW	Withdrawn
EL	Experimental Learning
EX	Departmental Exam
RC	Repeat Credit
RP	Repeat Pass/Fail

3. NAME.FR.M

This is a report format that produces a report of all students by last name. To produce this report, simply type DO NAME at the dot prompt after you have entered dBASE III+. Be sure you have turned on your printer.

4. MAJOR.FR.M

This is a report format that produces a report of all students by major. To produce this report, simply type DO MAJOR at the dot prompt after you have entered dBASE III+. Be sure you have turned on your printer.

5. HOURS.FR.M

This is a report format that produces a report of all students by number of hours they have taken at JMU. To produce this report, simply type DO HOURS at the dot prompt after you have entered dBASE III+. Be sure you have turned on your printer.

6. YEAR.FR.M

This is a report format that produces a report of all students by the year they entered JMU.

To produce this report, simply type DO YEAR at the dot prompt after you have entered dBASE III+. Be sure you have turned on your printer.

7. GRADES.FRM

This is a report format that produces a report of all courses taken at JMU by students from your college. This report will enable you to determine how well your students performed in each course. To produce this report, simply type DO GRADES at the dot prompt after you have entered dBASE III+. Be sure you have turned on your printer. This report will take a while to generate if your institution has a large number of transfers.

1988-1989

**Transfer Applications from Virginia  
Community Colleges  
(Ranked by Number of Acceptances)**

	Male	Female	Total	Applications		
				Accepted	Rejected	Enrolled
1. Northern Virginia CC	85	81	166	100	49	65
2. Blue Ridge CC	22	29	51	37	8	29
3. Piedmont Virginia CC	21	25	46	36	8	24
4. Lord Fairfax CC	9	29	38	29	6	23
5. Central Virginia CC	11	10	21	12	6	10
6. Dabney Lancaster CC	5	5	10	10	0	6
7. Richard Bland	9	10	19	10	6	8
8. J. Sargent Reynolds	8	6	14	7	4	6
9. Tidewater CC	10	4	14	6	5	5
10. Virginia Western CC	5	8	13	5	8	2
11. Danville CC	2	5	7	4	2	3
12. Patrick Henry CC	2	4	6	4	2	2
13. Germanna CC	4	3	7	3	2	2
14. New River	4	1	5	3	2	2
15. Paul D. Camp	1	1	2	2	0	1
16. Rappahannock CC	1	3	4	2	1	1
17. Southwest Virginia CC	0	2	2	2	0	0
18. Southern Seminary	0	6	6	2	3	0
19. Thomas Nelson CC	1	3	4	1	2	0
20. Virginia Highlands CC	0	1	1	1	0	0
21. Wytheville	0	2	2	1	0	0
22. Eastern Shore CC	1	0	1	0	1	0
23. John Tyler CC	0	1	1	0	1	0
24. Southside CC	0	2	2	0	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>189</b>

03/22/89

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

TRANSFER STUDENTS TO JMU BY COLLEGE  
STUDENTS ENROLLED 1988-89

COLLEGE	NUMBER
BLUE RIDGE CMTY COLL	137
DABNEY LANCASTER C C	26
CNTRL VIRGINIA C C	38
DANVILLE CMTY COLL	12
TIDEWATER CMTY COLL	23
GERMANNA CMTY COLL	18
JOHN TYLER CMTY COLL	2
LORD FAIRFAX C C	75
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CC	191
NEW RIVER CMTY COLL	4
PATRICK HENRY C C	9
PAUL D CAMP C C	3
PIEDMONT VIRGINIA CC	85
RICHARD BLAND CLG	27
RAPPAHANNOCK C C	7
SOUTHWST VA CMTY COL	2
SOUTHSIDE VA C C	4
J SARGNT REYNOLDS CC	24
THOMAS NELSON C C	8
EASTRN SHORE C C	1
VIRGINIA WSTRN C C	47
WYTHEVILLE CMTY COLL	2
VIRGINIA HGHLNDS C C	8
 TOTAL ENROLLED	 753

03/22/89

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY  
TWO-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS BY MAJOR  
STUDENTS ENROLLED DURING 1988-89

PAGE 1

MAJOR	COUNT
ACTG	56
ANTH	4
ART	21
ARTH	3
BGS	15
BIO	17
BUED	3
CHEM	1
CIS	24
COMM	53
CS	18
DANC	2
DIET	6
ECED	31
ECON	11
ELED	19
EMDI	1
ENG	21
ENGR	1
FIN	43
FR	1
GEOG	4
GEOL	6
GER	2
HEED	1
HIST	17
	40

03/22/89

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY  
TWO-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS BY MAJOR  
STUDENTS ENROLLED DURING 1988-89

PAGE 2

MAJOR	COUNT
HORM	11
HTH	5
IBUS	7
LDIS	3
LIVS	10
LS	3
MATH	9
ME	1
MERT	4
MGT	52
MKT	39
MUED	9
MUS	6
NURS	3
OFAD	2
PBUS	4
PE	8
PHIR	1
PHYS	2
POM	1
POSC	45
PREM	3
PREN	8
PSYC	44
PUAD	3
RUSS	1

03/22/89

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY -  
TWO-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS BY MAJOR  
STUDENTS ENROLLED DURING 1988-89

PAGE 3

MAJOR	COUNT
SOCI	7
SOSW	8
SPAN	1
SPED	1
SPPA	6
SS	10
THEA	2
TIED	1
UNDC	42
*****	
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS</b>	<b>753</b>

APPENDIX C

Data Sharing Agreement  
with JMU

(also represents Shenandoah  
College and GMU)



*Lord Fairfax Community College*  
P.O. BOX 47, MIDDLETOWN, VA 22645 703-869-1120

DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

This document reaffirms our general agreement to share student outcomes assessment data on transfer students from Lord Fairfax Community College who have matriculated to James Madison University. A statement on compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act is also included.

I certify that my institution, Lord Fairfax Community College, will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act as it applies to the sharing of data on transfers to James Madison University. Specifically, I certify that: (1) the data will only be used for research purposes, and (2) individually-identifiable data will be renewed each year and subject to the approval of James Madison University. Releases or waivers from individual students will not be required under this arrangement.

Please review this brief statement in terms of its general adequacy. We invite you to retain one copy for your files and to return a signed copy in the enclosed envelope.

James Madison University  
Representative

April 14, 1989  
(Date)

Karen G. McNeill  
Lord Fairfax Community College  
Representative

April 12, 1989  
(Date)

Division of Arts & Sciences

## **ATTACHMENT E**

## **COPY OF THE VCCS MEMORANDUM**

**Student Transfer Information Exchange Agreements:**

**Survey of Colleges  
Regarding Student Transfer Data,  
November 7, 1989**



## VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

MARSHALL W. SMITH  
VICE CHANCELLOR  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

### MEMORANDUM

TO: VCCS Presidents  
FROM: Marshall W. Smith *MWS*  
DATE: November 7, 1989  
SUBJECT: Student Transfer Information Exchange Agreements

In the Assessment Reports, 1988-89, several community colleges expressed concerns about difficulties with obtaining from Virginia's public senior institutions the kinds of student transfer assessment data needed to evaluate two-year college instructional processes and academic programs. In contrast, some of the community colleges stated in their assessment reports that the information received on the academic progress of former VCCS students in the senior institutions was quite adequate for evaluation purposes.

To document fully the difficulties and successes the colleges have had with obtaining and utilizing four-year institutional data on the academic progress of VCCS student transfers, we ask that you provide this office with a report having the following kinds of information:

- A list of the four-year institutions with which your college has established formal agreements to obtain data on VCCS student transfers.
- A description of the types of data supplied by each senior institution, together with an opinion about whether or not senior institution data enabled you to evaluate the instruction these students received at your college.
- An appraisal of the adequacy of the State Council decision to have individual community colleges establish separate agreements with senior institutions in order to obtain data on VCCS student transfers.

**MEMORANDUM**

**November 7, 1989**

**Page 2**

**As you develop the information requested above, please do offer suggestions aimed at improving the delivery of senior institution data on transfer students to the community colleges.**

**Your response should be received in this office by November 29, 1989. Thank you for acting on this request.**

**MWS/h**

**cc: Dr. Jeff Hockaday  
Chancellor's Staff  
Dr. B. Carlyle Ramsey  
Dr. Elmo D. Roesler**

**TRANSFER DATA ELEMENTS RECEIVED  
BY COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
FROM SENIOR INSTITUTIONS**

**(13/23 Community Colleges responding)**

**ASKED FOR BY STATE COUNCIL IN 1989**

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
1. Current academic or enrollment status (good standing, probation, suspension)	11
2. Grade point average	12
3. Program of student at four year college	11
4. Remedial courses taken at four year college	7
5. Number of transfer credits accepted	12

**OTHER DATA ELEMENTS FOUND IN TRANSFER AGREEMENTS**

6. Number from exiting college who applied	2
7. Number from exiting college accepted	3
8. Number enrolled by major	1
9. Social Security number	7
10. Student name	7
11. Matriculation date at senior institution	3
12. Semester level at entry to senior institution	3
13. Current level -- freshman, sophomore, etc.	4
14. Credits attempted at senior institution	10
15. Credits earned at senior institution	10
16. Total transfer credits accepted for each student (could include credits from other colleges)	2
17. Hours presented for transfer	2
18. Individual course grades at senior institution	6
19. Class ranking at senior institution	1
20. Year expected to graduate	3
21. Degree/honors conferred (by individual student)	1
22. Did student graduate from Community College	1
23. Community College GPA	3
24. Number transfer students withdrawn -- Reasons	1
25. Senior institution demographic information	1
26. Senior institution enrollment information	1
27. Complete transcript for each student from senior institution	1

## ATTACHMENT F

**COPY OF THE STATE COUNCIL MEMORANDUM  
BY MARGARET A. MILLER:**

**Sharing transfer Data with Two-Year Colleges**

**March 21, 1990**



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

**COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
James Monroe Building, 101 North Fourteenth Street, Richmond, Va. 23219

(804) 225-2137

Gordon K. Davies  
Director

## MEMORANDUM

March 21, 1990

**TO:** Chief Academic Officers  
**FROM:** Margaret A. Miller  
**RE:** Sharing transfer data with two-year colleges

As you will recall, the Guidelines for Student Assessment require that four-year institutions share data on the performance of transfer students with two-year colleges from which they receive five or more students. Your offices of institutional research have provided us with the number of students who transferred from two-year colleges to your institution this fall (see attachment).

After last year's assessment reports were completed, the VCCS conducted a survey to ascertain how well the locally based agreements to share transfer data are working. In general, the colleges were pleased with the responsiveness of senior institutions, and several demonstrated ways that analyses of the data can lead to curricular improvement. They did make suggestions about how the process can continue to be improved.

The community colleges believe

1. that student-identifiable data is necessary to make curricular decisions. We continue to urge four-year institutions to share data by student identifier, as long as the community colleges sign agreements providing safeguards for use of those data.
2. that four-year institutions should provide data to colleges who transfer fewer than five students. This problem was identified by several small colleges who transfer students to a number of four-year colleges, but less than five to any one. Any accommodation you can make to those colleges would be appreciated.

3. that several additional variables should be included in the reporting. Last year, we asked that, at a minimum, you provide data on the following:
  - current academic or enrollment status (e.g., good academic standing, probation, suspension)
  - grade-point average
  - program of student at four-year college
  - remedial courses taken (number and type)
  - number of transfer credits accepted

Two-year colleges have found that including a few other data elements adds greatly to their ability to analyze transfer data, and you are urged to add these elements if you have not already done so:

- number of students who applied
- number who were admitted
- credits attempted at senior institution
- credits earned at senior institution
- terms enrolled
- selected course grades

Please keep these suggestions in mind as you prepare this year's transfer information. We ask that you provide data to the colleges no later than July 1, 1990.

Thank you for your continued cooperation with this process.

## ATTACHMENT G

**A COPY OF THE VCCS MEMORANDUM  
BY MARSHALL W. SMITH,  
MARCH 27, 1990**

**Transfer Student Data:**

**State Council  
Student Transfer Data  
1988 and 1989**



## VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

James Monroe Building • 101 North Fourteenth Street • Richmond, Virginia 23219

*Office of the Vice Chancellor  
Academic and Student Affairs*

### MEMORANDUM

**RECEIVED**

MAR 27 1990

**TO:** VCCS Presidents

**FROM:** Marshall W. Smith *MWS*

**DATE:** March 27, 1990

**SUBJECT:** Transfer Student Data

RESEARCH & PLANNING  
VA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

I am attaching, for your information, a document forwarded from Dr. Margaret A. Miller of SCHEV last week to the chief academic officers of the public senior institutions in Virginia. She noted in a separate memorandum to me that there has been confusion with respect to whether or not the VCCS colleges need to compare the performance of their transfer students to that of "native" students. Given the inconsistency, Dr. Miller advises that there is no need for the VCCS institutions to make such comparisons.

I am also forwarding institution-specific data showing the numbers of transfers from your institution to the senior institutions.

You should receive transfer data on your students from the senior institutions by July 1, 1990. Please let me know if you have questions. Thank you.

**MWS:gw**

Attachments

**cc:** VCCS Provosts & Chief Academic Officers  
 Dr. Elmo Roesler  
Dr. Carlyle Ramsey

**VIRGINIA STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT SURVEY  
TRANSFER STUDENTS from TWO-YEAR VIRGINIA INSTITUTIONS  
FALL 1989**

**FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS**

COLLEGES	CNC	CVC	GMU	JMU	LVC	MWC	NSU	ODU	RDU	UVA	VCU	VMI	VPI	VSU	CWM	TRANSFERS
BLUE RIDGE C.C.	2	0	2	37	0	2	0	10	9	6	14	1	6	0	0	89
CENTRAL VIRGINIA C.C.	3	0	1	2	9	0	0	8	15	8	14	2	21	0	0	83
DABNEY S. LANCASTER C.C.	0	1	1	9	2	2	0	1	17	3	1	0	8	0	1	46
DANVILLE C.C.	0	0	0	5	13	0	0	19	2	1	10	0	11	0	0	61
EASTERN SHORE C.C.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	7
GERMANTON C.C.	0	0	7	1	5	22	1	6	3	4	21	1	3	1	0	75
J. SARGEANT REYNOLDS C.C.	3	1	3	1	17	1	1	16	8	4	247	0	15	10	0	327
JOHN TYLER C.C.	2	0	1	0	5	1	3	6	1	0	62	0	1	26	1	109
LOD FAIRFAX C.C.	0	0	7	15	3	0	0	2	9	1	9	0	6	0	1	53
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE C.C.	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	34
NEW RIVER C.C.	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	59	0	3	0	33	4	0	105
NORTHERN VIRGINIA C.C.	12	2	854	45	27	15	1	70	51	24	106	2	84	3	4	1,300
PATRICK HENRY C.C.	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	5	15	1	3	0	7	1	0	36
PAUL D. CAMP C.C.	0	0	0	0	2	0	4	4	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	15
PIEDMONT VIRGINIA C.C.	1	0	0	27	3	1	1	5	7	77	31	0	6	0	0	159
RAPPAHANNOCK C.C.	19	0	2	2	0	6	1	2	1	0	14	0	0	0	0	47
SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA C.C.	0	0	0	1	35	0	0	5	0	4	4	0	2	2	0	53
SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA C.C.	0	23	0	0	1	0	0	2	23	4	4	0	17	0	0	74
THOMAS NELSON C.C.	235	0	4	3	4	0	5	32	1	0	16	1	9	1	0	311
TIDEWATER C.C.	57	1	8	1	17	1	110	241	11	6	35	0	19	2	3	511
VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS C.C.	0	5	0	5	2	0	0	0	6	0	2	0	5	0	0	25
VIRGINIA WESTERN C.C.	3	0	2	8	5	1	0	6	61	3	18	1	50	0	0	158
WYTHEVILLE C.C.	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	34	0	1	1	8	0	1	48
<b>TOTAL VCCS</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3,726</b>
<b>RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>TOTAL from 2-YEAR COLLEGES</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3,866</b>

## NOTE:

- (Data Source)-- FALL 1989 SCHEV B-7 report.
- George Mason University--- a "transfer student" is a student who presents 12 or more hours of work from a postsecondary institution.
- Clinch Valley College--- a "transfer student" is a student who after completion of high school transferred 10 or more semester hours to CVC, or who attempted a full-time semester or quarter at another institution.
- Virginia Military Institute Admissions defines a "transfer student" as a student who has attended an accredited community college, junior college, four-year college or university on a full-time basis for at least 12 to 15 quarter hours during a regular session for at least one quarter or semester.
- College of William and Mary defines a "transfer student" as a student who has college credits from one or more other colleges and, applies as a transfer student and has enough acceptable transfer credits to be classified as a sophomore or above.
- Virginia Commonwealth University --- a "transfer student" is any student who has taken at least one course at another accredited college or university after having achieved either a G.E.D or a high school degree.
- Longwood College --- a "transfer student" is a student who has earned postsecondary college credit at an accredited institution. (This does not include new freshman who earned college credit in concurrent enrollment programs while they were high school seniors.)
- University of Virginia-- a "transfer student" is defined as a student who has been enrolled in a collegiate institution and subsequently enrolls at this institution with any transfer credits.
- Richard Bland College-- a "transfer student" is any student who has previously attended "other" institutions prior to enrolling at RBC to pursue an undergraduate degree.

SCHEV 03/90 rdb

**VIRGINIA STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT SURVEY  
TRANSFER STUDENTS from TWO-YEAR VIRGINIA INSTITUTIONS  
FALL 1988**

**FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS**

COMMUNITY COLLEGES	CNC	CVC	GMU	JMU	LWC	MWC	NSU	ODU	RDU	UVA	VCU	VMI	VPI	VSU	CWM	TOTAL TRANSFERS
BLUE RIDGE C.C.	3	1	0	25	4	0	0	12	2	6	5	0	7	0	0	65
CENTRAL VIRGINIA C.C.	1	0	2	10	6	0	1	2	8	0	14	0	9	0	0	53
DABNEY S. LANCASTER C.C.	1	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	14	1	0	1	3	0	0	27
DANVILLE C.C.	0	0	0	2	8	0	2	8	5	3	8	0	12	0	0	48
EASTERN SHORE C.C.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	6	5	4	17	0	4	1	6
GERMANNA C.C.	0	0	9	2	3	24	2	1	19	0	8	210	0	12	0	77
J. SARGEANT REYNOLDS C.C.	3	1	4	6	2	1	1	1	0	8	210	0	12	2	0	269
JOHN TYLER C.C.	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	4	1	0	47	0	0	5	0	60
LORD FAIRFAX C.C.	1	0	1	21	0	0	0	3	3	3	7	0	5	0	0	44
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE C.C.	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	34
NEW RIVER C.C.	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	56	0	1	2	31	0	0	96
NORTHERN VIRGINIA C.C.	10	0	752	61	18	19	1	55	40	18	71	0	60	0	1	1,116
PATRICK HENRY C.C.	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	11	1	10	0	10	1	0	38
PAUL D. CAMP C.C.	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	9
PIEDMONT VIRGINIA C.C.	2	0	6	23	2	0	1	8	5	59	19	0	6	0	0	131
RAPPAHANNOCK C.C.	1	0	1	1	1	4	1	2	1	0	15	0	2	0	1	30
SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA C.C.	1	0	0	0	21	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	6	3	0	36
SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA C.C.	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	3	3	0	19	0	0	79
THOMAS NELSON C.C.	254	0	1	0	6	0	9	42	1	0	8	0	4	0	2	321
TIDEWATER C.C.	54	1	9	1	6	0	110	232	5	6	23	2	13	2	3	467
VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS C.C.	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	10	0	1	0	3	0	0	20
VIRGINIA WESTERN C.C.	6	0	0	2	1	0	1	7	66	2	11	1	35	0	0	132
WYTHEVILLE C.C.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	44	2	4	0	11	0	2	64
<b>TOTAL VCCS</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3,222</b>
<b>RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>124</b>
<b>TOTAL 2-YEAR COLLEGES</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3,346</b>

## NOTE:

- (Data Source)-- FALL 1988 SCHEV B-7 report.
- \* George Mason University--- a "transfer student" is an applied, accepted, and enrolled student who is not a first-time student or a re-admit student.
- \* Clinch Valley College--- a "transfer student" is a student having attended another institution full-time for at least one semester or quarter during a regular academic year; or who, through part-time attendance at other institution, transfers 10 or more hours to CVC.
- \* Virginia Military Institute Admissions defines a "transfer student" as a student who has attended an accredited college on a full-time basis for at least 12 to 15 quarter hours during a regular session for at least one quarter or semester. Students who earned advanced credits while still enrolled in secondary school, summer school, or evening college programs.
- \* College of William and Mary defines a "transfer student" as a student accepted as an undergraduate with college credit from another college and attending CWM for the first time or have left CWM to attend another college (not approved summer study) and are returning to William and Mary.
- \* Christopher Newport College --- a "transfer student" is a student who has been previously enrolled in one or more collegiate institutions and has transferred to CNC with or without credits

SCHEV 05/89 rdb

**SCHEV B7**  
**Transfer Students from Public Two-Year Virginia Instit.**  
**Enrolled Fall 1990**  
**Instructions for Completion**

**General Information**

Enter the information requested at the top of each page; please be sure to enter the institution name and FICE code on each page of the form.

Enrollment should be reported as of the institution's official fall census date for headcount reporting as described in the *SCHEV Reporting Guidelines*.

**Submission Requirements**

The SCHEV B7 is due in the office of the State Council of Higher Education no later than November 15, 1990. Any questions about the SCHEV B7 should be directed to Rodney Brown at (804)225-2616, SCATS 225-2616, BITNET ID SCHE43 @ VTVM1.

This report is required of all four-year public institutions in Virginia and Richard Bland College. Machine-readable data is not required.

Forms should be addressed to the attention of Secretary, Research Section, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, James Monroe Building, Tenth Floor, 101 North Fourteenth Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

**Definitions**

**Census Date:** The date when the number of students enrolled in each class and section is counted. For semester terms, the census date shall be no sooner than the end of the fourteenth calendar day from the beginning of the term. See the *SCHEV Reporting Guidelines* for additional information.

**Headcount Student:** A student enrolled for more than zero credit hours in courses offered for degree or certificate credit or a student who meets the criteria for classification as a remedial student.

**Undergraduate Student:** A student enrolled in a university-parallel/college transfer program, a four or five-year bachelor's degree program, an associate degree program, or a occupational or technical program that is normally terminal and would normally result in formal recognition at or below the baccalaureate level. An unclassified student whose enrollment in classes at the baccalaureate level constitutes more than half his/her course load is also considered an undergraduate. A remedial student may also be considered an undergraduate. (USDS Student Levels .10., .21., .22., .26., .27., .41., .42., .55., .90., .91.)

**Undergraduate Transfers:** Applicants who have been enrolled in one or more collegiate institutions and subsequently apply for admission to another institution as an undergraduate with some transfer credits.

**SCHEV B7****TRANSFER STUDENTS FROM PUBLIC TWO-YEAR VIRGINIA  
INSTITUTIONS ENROLLED FALL 1990**

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

FICE Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Respondent: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part A: Include all undergraduate transfers as of the institution's fall census date.**

Institution	Total Students
Blue Ridge Community College	
Central Virginia Community College	
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College	
Danville Community College	
Eastern Shore Community College	
Germanna Community College	
J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College	
John Tyler Community College	
Lord Fairfax Community College	
Mountain Empire Community College	
New River Community College	
Northern Virginia Community College	
Patrick Henry Community College	
Paul D. Camp Community College	
Piedmont Virginia Community College	

**SCHEV B7 Fall 1990 concluded**

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ FICE Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part A concluded**

Institution	Total Students
Rappahannock Community College	
Southside Virginia Community College	
Southwest Virginia Community College	
Thomas Nelson Community College	
Tidewater Community College	
Virginia Highlands Community College	
Virginia Western Community College	
Wytheville Community College	
Richard Bland College	
<b>Total Students</b>	

**Part B: Definition**

Use the following space to explain your institution's data processing definition of "transfer student."



## VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

*Office of the Chancellor*

*David R. Pierce*  
Chancellor

June 14, 1990

Dr. Dale F. Campbell  
Assistant Commissioner  
Texas Higher Education  
Coordinating Board  
P.O. Box 12788  
200 East Riverside Drive  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Dale:

We have completed your survey concerning the definition of a community college transfer student. Neither the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia nor the System has in place a standard definition for the term "student transfer." See enclosed survey form.

As Virginia's two- and four-year colleges have developed and implemented their student assessment plans, employer follow-up and student transfer studies have been used to gather student assessment information. The community colleges have established student transfer data exchange agreements with those four-year institutions which have enrolled their transfers.

A concern in this state is one of developing a standard definition for college transfer, yet treating student transfer data and other assessment information in a manner not susceptible to comparing one community college with another. This point is thoroughly discussed in a paper "Virginia Community College Transfers to In-State Public Four-year Colleges and Universities: Data Exchange and Analysis Context." See enclosure.

I look forward to seeing you and discussing these matters at the Transfer Committee Meeting next July.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that appears to read "David R. Pierce".

David R. Pierce

D.P.P/k

Enclosures



# TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

P.O. Box 12788 • 200 East Riverside Drive • Austin, Texas 78711  
512-462-6300 • TEX-AN 256-6300 • FAX 512/462-6453 • ST 456-4452

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS

DALE F. CAMPBELL  
Associate Executive Director

15 CIVIC  
MAY 2 1990

### MEMORANDUM

CHANCELLOR  
VA. COMMUNIT  
Y COLLEGES

To: State Directors of Community Colleges  
From: Dale F. Campbell *Dale F. Campbell*  
Date: May 22, 1990  
Subject: July 1990 Transfer Committee Meeting in Florida

At the request of the National Council of State Directors of Community/Junior Colleges, we have undertaken a study of state policies on student transfer and reporting procedures. Enclosed is a survey of State Directors about student transfers from public community colleges to public four-year or upper-division institutions. We anticipate sharing the results of the survey at the State Directors' July meeting in Florida. We will discuss the transfer issue and the implications of the survey findings at that time.

The survey form was developed in consultation with an expert panel at AACJC, including state directors and transfer study researchers. We would appreciate it if you, your chief academic administrator and/or your chief reporting/research official would take a few moments to complete the form with respect to your state's situation.

Please return the form to me by June 15, 1990, so that we can analyze your responses with those of our colleagues.

Call me or Sally Andrade at (512) 462-6300 if you have any questions or need additional information.

DFC/SJA:msa

Enclosure

CC: Bob Scott

65

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE DIRECTORS OF COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGES**  
**Committee to Study the Definition of College Transfer**

This is a survey of official state policy regarding transfer and analysis of student transfers in the 50 states. Please respond to the questions that follow regarding your state's current official policies and reporting procedures on student transfers from public community/junior colleges to public four-year or upper-division colleges and universities.

Note: The results of the survey will be presented and discussed at the Council's meeting July 1990 in Florida.

State Agency Virginia Community College System

Phone ( 804 ) 225-2127

Person responding to the survey Dr. Elmo Roesler

Title Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Research and Planning

After completing the survey, please use the space below for any additional comments.

See comments attached as "Introduction: VCCS/State Council Transfer Data Exchange."

1. Is your agency responsible for reporting to the state legislative body on student transfers for your state?

Yes  No  Other (Please explain below.)

1-a. If NO, which agency has that responsibility in your state?

Another state agency: State Council For Higher Education  
 No state agency has that responsibility.  
 Other (Please explain below.)

2. Does your state have an official definition (i.e., specified by statute and /or formally defined in rules or reporting procedures of the agency responsible for reporting) of "transfer student"?

Yes  No  Other (Please explain below.)  
However, data are reported according to various institutional definitions (see attachments).

2-a. If YES, how does your state officially define "transfer student"?

3. If NO to #2, does your state use a working definition of "transfer student"?

Yes  No  Other (Please explain below.)

3-a. If YES, what is the working definition of "transfer student" used in your state?

The working definitions are determined by the individual agreements among the individual community colleges and the senior institutions (see attachments).

4. Does your state's higher education data collection system (your agency and/or others) have the capacity to report the number of students who transfer from public community colleges to public four-year or upper-division colleges or universities?

Yes  No  Other (Please explain below.)

4-a. If NO, skip question 5 and go directly to question 6.

4-b. If YES, does your state compute student transfer rates?

Yes  No  Other (please explain below.)

5. If YES to #4-b, please describe the student transfer analysis process in your state:

5-a. Which state agency is responsible to the state legislative body for the computation of transfer rates?

Your agency  
 Another state agency: \_\_\_\_\_ N/A  
 No state agency has that responsibility.  
 Other (Please explain below.)

5-b. To compute a student transfer rate requires a formula: a numerator with the number of students who transfer and a denominator with the number of students enrolled who are eligible for transfer within a specified time period. What groups does your state currently use for the numerator and denominator in the computation of transfer rates from public community/junior colleges to public four-year or upper-division colleges and universities?

N/A

5-c. How regularly is the analysis done? N/A

Once a year       Once every four or more years  
 Once every two years       No set schedule  
 Once every three years       Other (Please explain below.)

5-d. Please describe any other issues of your state's student transfer analysis process that may be relevant:

See Attachments

NOTE: If your state has official reporting forms or instruments for the student transfer analysis process, please send us a copy of each one.

6-a. We are interested in understanding which data elements are available in your state (at your agency and/or others) which would permit the calculation of the following:

		Data Elements Currently Available?		
		Yes	No	Uncertain
	<b><u>Numerator (Transfer Data Elements)</u></b>			
(A)	# of students who transfer from a public community college to a public four-year institution in a given academic year	X	—	—
(B)	# of students who transfer from a public community college to a public four-year institution in a given academic year and who had earned at least 12 credit hours at the community college	—	X	—
(C)	# of students who transfer from a public community college to a public four-year institution in a given academic year, excluding students who had earned 6 or more credit hours at a four-year institution prior to or during that academic year	—	X	—
(D)	# of students who transfer from a public community college to a public four-year institution and who completed at least 12 credit hours at the four-year institution in a given academic year after their transfer	—	X	—
(E)	Combination of above or other (Please define):	—	X	—

**Denominator (Enrollment Data Elements)**

(F)	# of unduplicated public community college students enrolled for credit in a given academic year	X	—	—
(G)	# of unduplicated public community college students who had earned at least 12 credit hours at the end of a given academic year at the college	X	—	—
(H)	# of unduplicated public community college students who had not earned 6 or more credit hours at a four-year institution prior to or during a given academic year	—	X	—
(I)	# of unduplicated public community college students who enrolled in the college in any term during a given academic year but who did not re-enroll in the subsequent academic year	X	—	—
(J)	Combination of above or other (Please define):	—	X	—

6-b. Based on the above definitions of numerator and denominator and/or their combination, please identify the data elements (by capital letters) that should be included in the computation of transfer rates to facilitate valid comparisons for your state:

		<u>Numerator</u>	<u>Denominator</u>	<u>Uncertain / Need Additional Information</u>
a)	Most valid approach	<u>A</u> [ Examples: <u>(A)</u> <u>(B)+(C)</u> ]	<u>G</u> [ <u>(F)</u> <u>(G)+(H)+(I)</u> ]	—
b)	Alternative valid approach	—	—	—

7. If the National Council of State Directors of Community/Junior Colleges and/or AACJC were to recommend a national reporting and analysis standard or policy on transfer:

a. Do you have the authority to adopt it?        Yes   X   No        Uncertain

b. Would you recommend adopting it in your state?        Yes   X   No        Uncertain

c. If YES to (a) and (b), how much time would be necessary to allow for modifications of reporting and analysis systems before full implementation in your state?

N/A year(s)                    month(s)

8. We appreciate any additional comments you may have on student transfer reporting or on this survey.

See attachment.s

In order to facilitate the systematic gathering of transfer data, the VCCS makes the following recommendations:

1. Oversight agencies such as the State Council for Higher Education in Virginia should support the systematic collection and reporting of student identifiable transfer data.
2. A systematic approach would entail the development of a VCCS/SCHEV official definition of a community college student to be designated as a transfer student at a senior institution.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call:

Dale F. Campbell or Sally J. Andrade -- (512) 462-6300

Please return the completed survey by Friday, June 15, 1990, to:

Dr. Dale F. Campbell  
Assistant Commissioner

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

P. O. Box 12788  
Austin, Texas 78711-2788

ERIC Clearinghouse for  
Junior Coileges